

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-7 with prejudice or disclaimer, amend claim 8, and add new claim 9 as follows:

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) [The nucleic] Nucleic acid arrays [of claim 7] for detecting nucleic acids by hybridization comprising:

a plurality kinds of single-stranded nucleic acid probes for hybridizing to the nucleic acids, said nucleic acid probes being immobilized at different positions on a substrate surface by covalent bonds; and [wherein said functional groups are] products of hydrolysis of maleimide groups present on positions on the substrate surface where no nucleic acid probe is immobilized.

9. (New) The nucleic acid arrays according to claim 8, wherein at least one of the covalent bonds exist between a thiol of said single-stranded nucleic acid probes and one of the maleimide groups.